

Gifts of the Dark Wood

Sunday, March 26



The path of life is rarely clear or straightforward. We find ourselves lost in a Dark Wood, unclear which direction to go, perhaps having strayed from the path we thought we were on. It is at these times that the gift of getting lost is that we begin to pay more attention than we usually do. Perhaps we are looking for blatant signs when the subtle nudges of Spirit are already right there. The gift of getting lost invites us to get quiet and open wide our senses.

This week we focus on “The Gift of Getting Lost”

Prayer

Permeating Love, enter our lives
and open us to the gifts residing deep within the Holy Darkness of our lives.

When we feel overwhelmed
by the twists and turns of life,

quiet us,

open us,

heighten our senses to perceive your nudge toward life.

In your many names, we pray. Amen.

Bible Readings

As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.
When shall I come and behold
the face of God?
My tears have been my food
day and night,
while people say to me continually,
“Where is your God?”
~ *Psalms 42 (NRSV)*

The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ~ *1 Samuel 3 (NRSV)*

Contemporary Reading

Stand still. The trees ahead and bushes beside you are not lost. Wherever you are is called Here. And you must treat it as a powerful stranger. Must ask permission to know it and be known. The forest breathes. Listen. It answers. I have made this place around you. If you leave it you may come back again saying Here. No two trees are the same to Raven. No two branches are the same to Wren. If what a tree or a bush does is lost on you. You are surely lost. Stand still. The forest knows where you are. You must let it find you. ~ David Wagoner (85-86)

Reflection

Do you feel lost? Have you ever felt lost? Know that God is with you on your journey no matter where you are. Even when you don't know where you are, God is right there with you!